availability of funds with the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to take necessary measures. Additional assistance, over the above CRF, is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), if necessary, for natural calamities of severe nature, in accordance with an established procedure, on submisison of a Memorandum for assistance from the NCCF by the State Government. The Government of Haryana had submitted a Memorandum seeking assistance from the NCCF, in the wake of hailstorm. However, it was assessed that the requirements, as per norms, could be met from the funds available in the CRF and the State Government have been advised accordingly. No other State Government mentioned above submitted any Memorandum for assistance from the NCCF in the wake of hailstorms of February/March, 2007.

Per capita availability of foodgrains

†18. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food security crisis in the country is getting intensified at present;

(b) if so, whether it is also that per capita availability of foodgrain in the country was 192 grams during 1991 to 1995 which has reduced to 174 grams during 2004-07;

(c) if not, the facts in this regard; and

(d) the target fixed by Government to increase the per capita availability of the foodgrains for ensuing years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) India's food security system is acknowledged to be one of the largest in the world. Total foodgrains production in the country increased from 208.60 million tonnes in 2005-06 to 216.13 million tonnes (Fourth Advance Estimates) in 2006-07.

(b) and (c) The country's per capita availability of foodgrains has been fluctuating over a period of time, as may be seen from the following table:

(Kilogram per year)

Year	Per Capita Availability of Foodgrains
1991	186.2
1992	171.1
1993	169.4
1994	172.0
1995	180.8
1996	173.5
1997	183.6

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Year	Per Capita Availability of Foodgrains
1998	163.2
1999	170.0
2000	165.9
2001	151.9
2002	180.4
2003	159.7
2004	168.9
2005	154.2
2006(P)	162.3

(P)- Provisional

In order to increase production and productivity and thereby the per capita availability, the notabale steps taken by the Government are Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM).

(d) The production target of foodgrains for the year 2007-08 is fixed at 221.50 million tonnes.

Revision of assistance package on suicides of farmers

19. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suicide by debt-ridden farmers in various parts of the country, particularly, Maharashtra and Karnataka, continues unabated;

(b) if so, the details for the last three years with the details of assistance extended to the farmers to alleviate their problems, State-wise;

(c) whether the package of assistance announced by Government last year has not found favour with the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details and the measures proposed to be taken to revise the scheme of assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FOR AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) A Statement showing suicides by farmers during the last three years as reported by the respective State Governments is (given in Statement-I (*See* below). To alleviate the sufferings of the farmers the Government announced a Special Rehabilitation Package for the distressed farmers in 31 Districts with reports of high number of suicides in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The details of State-wise assistance extended under the package are enclosed at Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) No such report/information has been received from the State Governments.

(d) Doesn't arise.